

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Judson K. Champlin on 6/18/09.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

a. Abstract:

i. A~~An~~ process device for use in an industrial process control or monitoring system is configured to couple to a process which includes piping carrying a process fluid. A vibration sensor is configured to sense vibrations from the process. Diagnostic circuitry provides a diagnostic output related to a process disturbance or operation of a process component based upon the sensed vibrations.

b. Original Claim 1: Lines 12, 15, 18 and 19

- ii. In line 12, Replace ";" with --; and--
- iii. In line 15, Replace ";" and" with --;--
- iv. In line 18, Replace "diagnostic comparison" with --diagnostic output--

- v. In line 19, Replace “accumulation of sensed vibrations to a threshold.” with --accumulation of the sensed vibrations over at least a partial lifetime of use of the vibration sensor to a threshold.--
- c. Original Claim 32: Lines 13, 15, 16 and 17
 - vi. In line 13, Replace “;” with --; and--
 - vii. In line 15, Replace “; and” with --;--
 - viii. In line 16, Replace “diagnostic comparison” with --diagnosing operation--
 - ix. In line 17, Replace “accumulation of sensed vibrations to a threshold.” with --accumulation of the sensed vibrations over at least a partial lifetime of use of the vibration sensor to a threshold.--
- d. Original Claim 46: Line 2
 - x. In line 2, Replace “diagnosis” with --diagnosing operation--
- e. Original Claim 52: Lines 1 and 2
 - xi. In line 1, Replace “diagnostic output” with --diagnosing operation--
 - xii. In line 2, Replace “vibration signal” with --sensed vibrations--
- f. Original Claim 53: Lines 1 and 2
 - xiii. In line 1, Replace “diagnosing” with --diagnosing operation--
 - xiv. In line 2, Replace “vibration signal” with --sensed vibrations--

Allowable Subject Matter

- 3. Claims 1, 3-15, 18-32, 34-42 and 45-56 are allowed.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Regarding claims 1 and 32, the prior art of record does not disclose an apparatus/method for use in an industrial process control or monitoring system, wherein the diagnostic output/operation is based upon a comparison of an accumulation of the sensed vibrations over at least a partial lifetime of use of the vibration sensor to a threshold. The allowability, at least in part, resides in these facts.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CHARLES R. KASENGE whose telephone number is (571)272-3743. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:30 - 5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Albert DeCady can be reached on 571 272-3819. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

CK
June 18, 2009

/Charles R Kasenge/
Examiner, Art Unit 2121